

PRESS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, October 29, 2007

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Source of complaints by surrounding property owners...

City will demolish vacant "eyesore" on Pearl Road in Ward 1

(**Parma, OH**) – Village Car Care, a former gas and service station located at 5300 Pearl Road, that has been dormant and a source of complaints by surrounding property owners for the last five years, will be demolished beginning in early November, Mayor Dean DePiero announced today.

The long abandoned eyesore will be razed, graded and seeded to make way for economic development in the Pearl/Ridge Roads Triangle – a major and accessible entry point to the City.

Through the efforts of the City's Community Services and Economic Development Department, funding was applied for and received from the County's "Brownfield" program that is designed to clean up abandoned industrial/commercial sites.

Comprised of three separate lots totaling approximately one-half acre, the Village Car Care building will be torn down and its parking lot torn up at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 that has been earmarked for Parma's Community Development Block Grant funds.

Testing of soils on the property uncovered no contaminates. Tests made on the building's exterior indicated a small amount of asbestos, but not enough to cause any health concerns for nearby residents or businesses.

The property was turned over to the City by the property owner in exchange for building code violations charges in Parma Municipal Court being dropped.

"This action is a win-win for the City and for residents and businesses located in Ward 1," DePiero said. "I am proud to have worked with Councilwoman Mary Galinas to continue serving her constituents, in particular, and the City in general."